

Remarks

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed March 9, 2007. A Petition for Extension of Time is submitted herewith, together with the appropriate fee.

I. Summary of Examiner's Rejections

Prior to the Office Action mailed March 9, 2007, Claims 1-2, 4-8, 25-30, and 32-37 were pending in the Application. In the Office Action, Claims 1-2, 4-8, 25-30, and 32-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Huben et al., (U.S. Patent No. 6,327,594, hereafter Van Huben) in view of Sim et al., (U.S. Patent No. 6,857,012, hereafter Sim).

II. Summary of Applicant's Amendment

The present Response amends Claims 1 and 25, leaving for the Examiner's present consideration Claims 1-2, 4-8, 25-30, and 32-37. Reconsideration of the Application, as amended, is respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to prosecute any originally presented or canceled claims in a continuing or future application.

III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

In the Office Action mailed March 9, 2007, Claims 1-2, 4-8, 25-30, and 32-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Huben et al., (U.S. Patent No. 6,327,594, hereafter Van Huben) in view of Sim et al., (U.S. Patent No. 6,857,012, hereafter Sim).

Claim 1

Claim 1 has been amended by the present Response to more clearly define the embodiment of the invention therein. As amended, Claim 1 defines:

1. *(Currently Amended) A storage medium for storing data for access by an application program being executed on a computer system, comprising:
a data structure stored in said storage medium, the data structure including or referring to:*

*a name;
a content repository identifier;
a property;
a property definition;*

a path; and
a reference to a parent data structure;
wherein the data structure is logically part of a virtual content repository (VCR);
wherein the VCR represents a plurality of content repositories logically as a single
content repository encompassing the plurality of content repositories from the
application program's standpoint;
wherein the path uniquely specifies the data structure's location in the VCR; and
wherein a content repository is a searchable data store.

Claim 1, as currently amended, defines a storage medium for storing data for access by an application program being executed on a computer system, comprising a data structure that is logically part of a virtual content repository that represents a plurality of content repositories logically as a single content repository encompassing the plurality of content repositories from the application program's standpoint. Furthermore, a content repository is defined as a searchable data store. Applicant respectfully submits that these features are neither disclosed nor suggested by the prior art.

Claim 1 has been amended to define that a content repository is a searchable data store. It is respectfully submitted that this limitation is not disclosed in the cited references.

Claim 1 has also been further amended such that wherein the VCR represents a plurality of content repositories logically as a single content repository encompassing the plurality of content repositories from an application program's standpoint. It is respectfully submitted that this limitation is also not disclosed by the cited references.

In the Office Action mailed March 9, 2007, it was submitted that Sim discloses a virtual content repository that represents a plurality of content repositories logically as a single repository because Sim discloses the use of a Scalable Content Delivery Network (SCDN), including (nodes) organized into a virtual tree structure in which each node in the tree has a set of attributes. The nodes also store the attributes of descendant nodes. Distribution servers within a Distribution Server Cluster use the attributes to distribute and route the large files. One of the nodes is designated the "Central Station" that holds an attribute database that acts as a reference table, and may act as a data repository containing some or all of content.

However, it is respectfully submitted that the above description of Sim does not appear to disclose a virtual content repository that represents a plurality of content repositories logically as a single repository encompassing the plurality of content repositories, wherein a content repository

is a searchable data store. Instead, Sim appears to disclose a set of nodes that each contain an incomplete portion of a whole file, but represents each incomplete portion as a whole file to an end user. While Sim discloses nodes organized into an internal representation of a virtual tree structure, the nodes are not represented logically as a single repository. Instead, a portion of a file, stored in one of the stations, is represented as being a complete file.

Furthermore, although Sim discloses that a node designated the "Central Station" may act as a data repository, only that single data repository is disclosed, and there does not appear to be any mention of a *plurality* of content repositories represented logically as a single repository encompassing a plurality of content repositories, wherein a content repository is a searchable data store..

Van Huben discloses methods for shared data management in a pervasive computing environment through the use of a centralized Data Management System (DMS) (col. 2, lines 42-47). The DMS architecture is based on a PFVL paradigm (col. 10, lines 25-27) that classifies objects inside the DMS according to five basic attributes: PACKAGE, VARIANCE, LEVEL, FILETYPE, and VERSION (col. 10, lines 39-56).

It is respectfully submitted that Van Huben does not appear to disclose a data structure *including or referring to a path that uniquely specifies the data structure's location in the VCR*. While the Office Action cites column 14, lines 9-30 of Van Huben as disclosing the above limitation, the passage in Van Huben appears to merely describe the use of a File Reference number as a unique file identifier to track data. However, the File Reference number does not appear to be a path that specifies a data's location.

In view of the above comments, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1, as amended, is neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Claim 25

The comments provided above with respect to Claim 1 are hereby incorporated by reference. Claim 25 has been similarly amended to more clearly define the embodiment therein. For similar reasons as provided above with respect to Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 25, as amended, is also neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 4-8, 26-30, and 32-37

Dependent Claims 2, 4-8, 26-30, and 32-37 are not addressed separately, but it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable as depending from an allowable independent claim and further in view of the additional limitations of these claims. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 2, 4-8, 26-30, and 32-37 are similarly neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of, the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested. It is also respectfully submitted that these claims also add their own limitations which render them patentable in their own right. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to argue these limitations should it become necessary in the future.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

Enclosed is a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for extending the time to respond up to and including today.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this reply, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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